

TEACHER QUALITY AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT:

A Primer for Certification and Highly Qualified

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Issues for Discussion

- Overview of Licensing requirements and alignment with the Highly Qualified requirement
- Overview of Highly Qualified status of New Jersey Teachers
- Discussion of state Highly Qualified Equity Plan and district Highly Qualified Teacher Plan
- Identification of Highly Qualified status of all teachers
- Strategies to support recruiting and retaining highly qualified teachers



LICENSURE IN NEW JERSEY



Acronyms

LEA —Local Education Agency

NJ CCCS —New Jersey Core Curriculum
Content Standards

HQ —Highly Qualified

IDEA —Individuals with Disabilities Education Act

NCLB —No Child Left Behind

OPI —Oral Proficiency Interview

NJ HOUSE —New Jersey High Objective Uniform
Standard of Evaluation

NJ QSAC —New Jersey Quality Single
Accountability Continuum

Teacher Certification

■ Types of Certificates:

- **Certificate of Eligibility (CE) –**
Alternate Route
- **Certificate of Eligibility with**
Advanced Standing (CEAS) -
Traditional Route
- **Provisional Certificate-** allows
teacher to teach legally in a school
district
- **Standard Certificate**



Eligibility Requirements: Certificate of Eligibility (CE) - Alternate Route & How to Apply

- ☐ Application for certification (only online applications will be accepted as of May 1, 2009)
 - ☐ BA or MA conferral noted on official transcripts
 - ☐ 2.50 G.P.A. for degrees conferred 8/31/04 or earlier
 - ☐ 2.75 G.P.A. for degrees conferred 9/1/04 or later
 - ☐ a major in the subject to be taught OR a minimum of 30 credits in a coherent sequence in the subject field (12 at the advanced levels of study)
 - ☐ 60 liberal arts credits are required if applying for Elementary Education K-5 or Preschool – Grade 3
 - ☐ Physiology and hygiene requirement
 - ☐ Test Requirement
 - ☐ \$190.00 fee for certificates requiring a test
 - ☐ \$170.00 fee for certificates not requiring a test
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- Applicants also may receive assistance through the county office of education in which they live or work.
 - If eligible, candidate will receive a Certificate of Eligibility (CE).

Eligibility Requirements: Certificate of Eligibility with Advanced Standing (CEAS) - Traditional Route & How to Apply

- ☐ Application for certification (only online applications will be accepted as of May 1, 2009)
 - ☐ BA or MA conferral noted on official transcripts
 - ☐ 2.50 G.P.A. for degrees conferred 8/31/04 or earlier
2.75 G.P.A. for degrees conferred 9/1/04 or later
 - ☐ a major in the subject to be taught OR a minimum of 30 credits in a coherent sequence in the subject field (12 at the advanced level of study)
 - ☐ State-approved college teacher preparation program culminating in supervised student teaching
 - ☐ Physiology and hygiene requirement
 - ☐ Test Requirement
 - ☐ \$190.00 fee for certificates requiring a test
 - ☐ \$170.00 fee for certificates not requiring a test
-
- Applicants also may receive assistance through the county office of education in which they live or work.
 - If eligible, candidate will receive a Certificate of Eligibility with Advanced Standing (CEAS).

The Certificate of Eligibility (CE) and Certificate of Eligibility with Advanced Standing (CEAS) allows the candidate to:

- Apply to school districts
- Be employed by the district who will register the candidate into the Provisional Teacher Program.




Preschool Through Grade 3 (P-3)

- The P-3 certificate authorizes the teacher to teach preschool through grade three in public schools and to teach public school students in approved settings providing early childhood education;
 - The P-3 certificate also authorizes the teacher to teach language arts literacy, mathematics, science and social studies full-time in grades preschool through three;
 - The P-3 certificate also authorizes the teacher to teach world languages full-time in grades preschool through three if he/she:
 - Possesses linguistic competency OPI and
 - Completes three semester-hour credits in second language acquisition theory and related methodologies offered by a regionally accredited four-year college or university within 12 months of initial assignment.
 - Teach all remaining subjects in grades preschool through three no more than one-half of the daily instructional assignment.



Preschool Through Grade 3 (P-3)

- Holders of standard K-8 and K-5 certificates may teach preschool only if able to document 2 academic years of full-time experience teaching three and four-year-olds. The teaching experience must be in a position that would require the Preschool through Grade 3 endorsement.



Elementary School Teacher Nursery through 8 vs. Kindergarten through 5

- If a certificate reads “Elementary School Teacher,” it is an N – 8 certificate.
- If a certificate reads “Elementary School Teacher in Grades Kindergarten through 5,” it is a K-5 certificate.
- N-8 certificates are **no longer** being issued to candidates.

Elementary School Teacher: N - 8

- The N - 8 certificate authorizes the teacher to teach math, science, language arts literacy and social studies full-time in grades N – 8.
- The N – 8 certificate also authorizes the teacher to teach all other CCCS half of the teaching assignment.
- The N – 8 certificate also authorizes the teacher to teach world languages full-time in grades N – 5 if he/she:
 - Possesses linguistic competency OPI and
 - Completes three semester-hour credits in second language acquisition theory and related methodologies offered by a regionally accredited four-year college or university within 12 months of initial assignment

Elementary School Teacher: K - 5

- The K - 5 certificate authorizes the teacher to teach math, science, language arts literacy and social studies full-time in grades K – 5.
- The K – 5 certificate also authorizes the teacher to teach all other CCCS half of the teaching assignment.
- The K-5 certificate also authorizes the teacher to teach reading, writing, arithmetic, and spelling for basic skills purposes only, in grades six through 12.
- The K – 5 certificate also authorizes the teacher to teach world languages full-time in grades K – 5 if he/she:
 - Possesses linguistic competency OPI and
 - Completes three semester-hour credits in second language acquisition theory and related methodologies offered by a regionally accredited four-year college or university within 12 months of initial assignment
- The K – 5 certificate does **not** authorize the teacher to teach **any** subject in grades above 5.




Middle School Certification (Elementary School with Subject Matter Specialization)

- ☐ Elementary school endorsement is a prerequisite
- ☐ Applicant must apply for both endorsements (elementary and elementary with subject matter specialization)
- ☐ If applying for bilingual or students with disabilities, must apply for three endorsements



Middle School Certification (Elementary School with Subject Matter Specialization) - Requirements

- Hold elementary school certificate
- 15 semester hour credits in the content area
- The required test
- Course in the characteristics of young adolescents (A CE can be issued without this requirement) As of the adoption of the new licensure code on 1/5/09, this requirement will change to a course in the characteristics of child and early adolescent development.
- For world languages, the teacher will need to complete the OPI and the world language methodology course. The course must be completed within 12 months of assignment



Middle School Certification (Elementary School with Subject Matter Specialization) – Child and Early Adolescent Characteristics

- Characteristics course
 - The course must cover child and early adolescent development in accordance with Standard 2 of the Professional Standards for Teachers.
- For a CEAS or standard certificate, this course must be completed first.
- A CE can be issued without the course in “characteristics of child and early adolescent development.”



Special Education

Teacher of the Handicapped (TOH)

- This endorsement authorizes the holder to teach students with disabilities N-12.
- However, the teacher must be highly qualified to provide direct instruction in the core academic content areas.

SPECIAL EDUCATION –Continued

■ Teacher of Students with Disabilities (SWD)

- ***Must*** hold an instructional certificate (CE, CEAS or Standard certificate as a prerequisite)
- For SWD CE, ***must hold an instructional certificate (CE, CEAS or Standard).***
- For SWD CEAS ***must complete a state-approved college program*** that includes 21 – 27 credits in special education and required supervised teaching
- For standard SWD ***must hold a standard instructional certificate and complete a state-approved college*** special education program

SPECIAL EDUCATION – Continued

■ Middle school assignments with K-5 instructional:

- The teacher needs to hold (at a minimum) the elementary school CE, the elementary school with subject matter specialization CE and the SWD CE.
- If teacher is assigned to teach middle school English, math, science and social studies, the teacher will need the elementary CE, all four elementary with specialization CEs and the SWD CE.



Contact Information

- **For school district personnel:** Phone # 609-292-2045, press 3 and leave a message – the call will be returned within 48 hours.
- **For applicants:** Phone # 609-292-2070
 - Monday through Friday between the hours of 3:00 and 6:00 p.m.
- **Website:**
<http://www.state.nj.us/njded/educators/license/>



Contact Information-Continued

Educational Testing Services:

- o PRAXIS information can be obtained on the ETS website:
<http://www.ets.org/praxis>
- o Phone # 609-771-7395 OR 1-800-772-9476

Language Testing International – for general support and questions regarding oral and written language proficiency testing, access:

- o <http://www.languagetesting.com>
- o schedule@languagetesting.com
- o **914-963-7110**



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS



State Highly Qualified Status



**The State Highly Qualified
Progress Report
can be accessed online at
<http://www.state.nj.us/education/data/hqt/>**



Highly Qualified Teachers

The Highly Qualified Teacher initiative is a **federal mandate** that requires states to demonstrate the **alignment** between teachers' **academic preparation** and their **content area** teaching assignments through each state's licensing system.

- When a teacher achieves highly qualified status for a teaching assignment, the status is **permanent**. When the HOUSE expires, a teacher's highly qualified status does not expire.



Defining Highly Qualified: A Federal Definition

- To satisfy the federal definition of Highly Qualified, teachers must:
 - Have at least a Bachelor's degree;
 - Have valid state certification;
 - no requirements have been waived
 - no emergency certificates
 - CE and CEAS are considered state certification
 - Demonstrate content expertise in the core academic subject(s) they teach.



Highly Qualified Teachers: Definitions

- *New teacher* – a novice teacher in the first year of teaching
- *Newly hired teacher* – experienced teacher newly hired and new to the district
- *Veteran teacher* – one who has been teaching one year or more



Highly Qualified Teachers: Definitions

- *Self-contained*—teaching 3 of the 4 core academic content areas to a class or teaching 4 of the 4 core academic content areas to a class (*grades K-5 in all school settings are considered to be self-contained*)
- *Departmentalized*—teaching students in content areas (*grades 9-12 in all school settings are considered to be departmentalized*)



Highly Qualified Teachers: Definitions

- *K-5: Elementary*
- *6-8: Elementary or Departmentalized*
- *9-12: Departmentalized*



Highly Qualified Teachers: Definitions

Special Education in Grades 6-8

Special education teachers in grades 6-8 must meet highly qualified requirements consistent with those required of the general education teachers in self-contained and departmentalized settings.

Therefore, if a grade level is departmentalized, teachers providing direct instruction in grades 6-8 (including pull-out replacement resource programs) must meet highly qualified requirements at the middle grades level in each core academic subject they teach.



Certification Alignment

Current state licensure for teachers aligns with highly qualified teacher federal requirements.

- ❖ K to 5 elementary
- ❖ Middle school endorsement in LAL, math, science, social studies (companion to K to 5)
- ❖ Teacher of Students with Disabilities (with companion instructional certificate)



Certification Alignment

Some certificates issued prior to the newer licenses do not align with federal requirements. Teachers who are certified under the older licensing and teaching a core academic subject must take steps to meet highly qualified requirements.

Refer to the HQT alignment charts for details.



What are the Core Academic Subjects?

NCLB's core academic subjects:

English	Science	Government/Civics
Lang. Arts	Math	Geography
Reading	History	Economics
Arts	Foreign Languages	

These align with the NJ CCCS:

Lang. Arts Literacy	Science
Social Studies	Math
Visual & Performing Arts	World Languages




**ALL TEACHERS PROVIDING DIRECT
INSTRUCTION IN CORE ACADEMIC
SUBJECTS MUST DEMONSTRATE THEIR
CONTENT EXPERTISE.**



Professionals Who are Not Required to Demonstrate Highly Qualified

- Preschool teachers
- Health/Physical Education
- Educational Services Personnel
 - Librarians
 - Guidance Counselors
 - LDT-Cs, Psychologists, Social Workers,
 - Speech-Language Specialists
- Teachers of Vo-Tech Subjects
- Business
- Family and Consumer Science
- Technological Literacy and Technological Education
- Special education teachers providing in-class resource programs who do not provide direct instruction
- Special education teachers providing pull-out support resource programs who do not provide direct instruction
- Special education teachers providing consultation as a service
- Teachers of gifted and talented who do not provide direct instruction



**A TEACHER MUST HAVE THE
APPROPRIATE CERTIFICATION FOR
THE TEACHING ASSIGNMENT.
ADDITIONAL HIGHLY QUALIFIED
REQUIREMENTS MAY OR MAY NOT
APPLY, DEPENDING ON THE
TEACHER'S ASSIGNMENT.**



Demonstrating Content Expertise: Federal Requirements

Elementary Generalists (P-3; K-5; K-8 self-contained)

- Praxis II Elementary Content Knowledge Test
- P-3 Praxis Test for P-3 teachers only
- National Teachers Examinations (NTE) **effective 1985-1994**

Middle/Secondary Content Specialists (Grades 6-12 departmentalized)

- Praxis II Middle or K-12 Content Test
- Or Undergraduate major in the content
- Or 30 credits in the content (12 @ jr/sr level)
- Or Graduate degree in the content
- Or National Board Certification in the content.

English as a Second Language (ESL)

- Oral Proficiency Interview and Writing Proficiency Test as required for certification

World Languages

- HQT world languages charts (half time or less, more than half time) - chart for general ed teachers and chart for special ed teachers

A “snapshot” of the requirements can be accessed on the HQT Web site.



HQ Requirements and NJ Elementary/Middle School Teachers

- **Elementary School Teacher (N-8)**


Certified to provide direct instruction for K-8; content expertise is demonstrated through elementary praxis or NTE or middle school praxis (or one of the other federal requirements for departmentalized grades 6-8)

- **Elementary School Teacher: K-5**

Certified to teach K-5 only; content expertise is demonstrated through the elementary praxis or NTE

- **Elementary School Teacher: K-5 with Subject Matter
Specialization Endorsement (LAL, math, science, social studies)**

Certified to teach K-5; certified to teach specific core content in grades 6-8 (departmentalized); content expertise is demonstrated by satisfying test requirement for the subject matter specialization endorsement



HQ Requirements and NJ English as a Second Language (ESL) Teachers

- Certified ESL teachers have the appropriate coursework to teach English as a Second Language at the elementary/middle/high school levels. They do not need an additional Praxis or coursework.
- Certified ESL teachers teaching any other core content area must be certified and highly qualified in that content.
- ESL teachers meet highly qualified requirements by passing the Oral Proficiency Interview and Writing Proficiency Test in English.
- Certified ESL teachers providing support only do not need to meet highly qualified requirements.



HQ Requirements and Teachers of World Languages

Grandfathering: Teachers who received a world language certificate **prior to January 20, 2004** may teach a world language P-12 if they meet one of five highly qualified teacher requirements.

For all other teachers teaching a world language, refer to the alignment charts for general education and special education, detailing highly qualified teacher requirements :

- ☐ **more than half time**
- ☐ **less than half time**

HQ Requirements and NJ Basic Skills Teachers

Teachers who hold an elementary teacher certificate (K-8, N-8 or K-5) **must meet highly qualified requirements** to teach basic skills (reading, writing, arithmetic and spelling) in grades 6-12:

- Those teachers teaching basic skills (direct instruction) in grades 6-8 must satisfy the middle school **highly qualified** criteria.
- Those teachers teaching basic skills (direct instruction) in grades 9-12 must satisfy the high school **highly qualified** criteria.



HQ Requirements and NJ Special Education Teachers Changes in Certification

■ **Teacher of the Handicapped (K-12)**

- Certified to provide direct instruction in all areas as long as content expertise is demonstrated; may provide support or consultation services at all levels

Vs.

■ **Teacher of Students with Disabilities** with an instructional certification

- Certified to provide direct instruction in the area of the instructional certificate ONLY; may provide support or consultation services at all levels



HQ Requirements and NJ Special Education Teachers

Who must demonstrate content expertise
in the subject(s) they teach?

- Special education teachers who provide **direct instruction in core academic subjects** in special class programs (self-contained), departmentalized settings, or pull-out replacement resource programs



HQ Requirements and NJ Special Education Teachers

Who does not have to demonstrate content expertise?

- ❑ Special education teachers who provide **in-class resource programs**
 - **Note:** The primary instructional responsibility for the student in an in-class resource program shall be the general education teacher unless otherwise specified in the student's IEP [N.J.A.C. 6A:14-4.6(i)]
- ❑ Special education teachers who provide **pull-out support resource programs (not providing direct instruction)**
- ❑ Special education teachers who provide **consultation as a service** on behalf of a student or a group of students with disabilities



HQ Requirements and NJ Special Education Teachers

Special education teachers in the following programs can qualify as *elementary generalists* **only if they are certified for the grade level (K to 8 vs. K to 5)**

- Teach in pull-out replacement resource programs (K-5)
- Teach in self-contained settings (K-8)
- Teachers who teach classes where all students in the class are assessed using the Alternate Proficiency Assessment (APA)



HQ Requirements and NJ Special Education Teachers

Special education teachers in the following programs *must qualify in **each** core academic subject* they teach:

- Provide pull-out replacement resource programs in grades 6 - 8 where all grades are departmentalized
- Teach in self-contained settings above grade 8
- Teach in departmentalized settings grades 6 and above
- Teach in grades 9-12 (self-contained classes, departmentalized classes & pull-out replacement)



HOUSE Requirements

HOUSE provides an alternate means for special education teachers to show content expertise by accruing a total of ten points for:

- ☐ College coursework (2 points per content course)
- ☐ Professional learning (1 point and within a 4 year recency)
- ☐ Working with a content expert (1 point and within a 4 year recency)
- ☐ Teaching experience in the content
- ☐ National Board Certification (4 points)

Only those teachers who are eligible may use the HOUSE.



HOUSE Phase-Out

On June 30, 2007 HOUSE expired for new and veteran general education teachers.

On June 30, 2010 HOUSE expired for special education teachers.

On June 30, 2012 HOUSE will expire for special education teachers teaching in approved private schools for students with disabilities and public college operated programs for students with disabilities.



HOUSE Phase-Out

HOUSE may **no longer** be used as a means of attaining highly qualified status except for novice special education teachers who meet IDEA flexibility requirements and foreign teachers on short-term assignment.

Who Is Eligible to Use the HOUSE?

IDEA Flexibility

Novice special education teachers, who upon hire meet the highly qualified requirements in language arts, mathematics or science, have **2 years from date of hire** to become highly qualified in additional subjects using the HOUSE.

- Novice special education teacher: one who has been teaching less than one year
- A veteran teacher is considered to be a novice special education teacher if s/he is certified in special education and has been assigned to teach special education for the first time.
- Applies to TOH teaching multiple content areas in gr. 6-12
- Applies to SWD with N-8 or K-8 instructional certificate teaching gr. 6-8 in departmentalized setting

Who Is Eligible to Use the HOUSE?

IDEA Flexibility

The HOUSE may be used by the following novice special education teachers or veteran teachers **teaching special education for the first time:**

- **Teacher of the Handicapped (TOH)** who may teach multiple content areas in middle or high school (grades 6-12)
- **Teacher of Students with Disabilities (SWD)** and the **N-8 or K-8** instructional certificate who may teach middle grades (6-8) in departmentalized settings



Who Is Eligible to Use the HOUSE?

IDEA Flexibility

Holders of **Teacher of Students with Disabilities (SWD) certificates** must hold **N-8/K-8** to be eligible for IDEA flexibility. All other SWD teachers must obtain a companion subject matter endorsement, even if they are highly qualified in language arts, math or science upon hire.



HOUSE for Foreign Teachers

Foreign teachers who are hired on short- term assignments may use HOUSE to demonstrate content expertise.



HOUSE: Permanent Status

Teachers who demonstrate content expertise through HOUSE retain that status permanently.

When the HOUSE expires, a teacher's highly qualified status does not expire.

Areas for Clarification

- All highly qualified designations are portable, including HOUSE. Upon hiring a teacher, a district must contact the teacher's previous employer to obtain the official HQT paperwork.
- **Policy change** in March 2009: whether grade 5 is self-contained or departmentalized, teachers of grade 5 must meet highly qualified requirements as elementary generalists.
- Teachers with **N-8** (Elementary School Teacher) **HAVE** the appropriate certification to teach at the middle school level. However, they **must demonstrate content expertise** if they are teaching in **departmentalized** settings in grades 6-8.
- Teachers with **N-8** (Elementary School Teacher) may teach **self-contained classes** at the middle school level by meeting highly qualified requirements as elementary generalists.

Areas for Clarification

- Teachers with a **K-5 certification** may NOT teach grades 6 through 8 unless they hold the Middle School Subject Matter Specialization Endorsement. (In self-contained settings they must hold all 4 middle school subject matter specialization endorsements.)
- Teachers with **Teacher of the Handicapped (K-12)** certification have the appropriate certification to teach at the middle and high school level but **must demonstrate content expertise**. However, they may provide support at any level (no direct instruction).
- Teachers with **Teacher of Students with Disabilities** may be a teacher of primary instruction only in their area of instructional certification. However, they may provide support services K-12 (not the primary instructor).
- Teachers with bilingual certification may teach only in their area of instructional certification.

Areas for Clarification

- Holders of the P-3 certificate who did not pass a Praxis as a certification requirement must pass the **P-3 Praxis** to become highly qualified to teach grades K-3.
- Special education teachers who are highly qualified as elementary generalists may teach a secondary class where all students are assessed using the APA. Holders of the **P-3 certificate and SWD**, however, may not teach these classes.



Areas for Clarification

- Teachers holding a certificate in any science subject area are also highly qualified to teach **general science** in grades 6-12 by virtue of passing the general science Praxis.
- Teachers who used the HOUSE to become highly qualified in science must have documented 4 of the 10 points in the **specific science content area** they teach (e.g., chemistry, biology, physics).



Areas for Clarification

- Teachers who provide direct instruction in core content areas for **4 weeks or more** must be highly qualified in the subject or subjects they teach.
- Teachers who have not yet met the highly qualified status must be **reported accurately on the Certificated Staff Report**.
- The intent of the Federal Government is not to fire teachers if they have not met the highly qualified status, but rather to **support them** in meeting the requirements.
- For each teacher who has not achieved HQT status, districts must create a **plan and timeline** for achieving HQT status and **monitor teachers' compliance** with the plan.

Hiring and Assignment

- Review each teacher's certification.
- Assign teacher to an assignment within the area of certification and subject area expertise.*
- All teachers must fill out the appropriate forms .
located at www.nj.gov/education/profdev/nclb.
- Attach appropriate documentation to forms.
- Teacher and supervisor/administrator sign and date form G.
- Place copies of all forms in appropriate file and provide the teacher with a copy.

*Is the teacher certified and highly qualified for the classroom assignment(s)?



The Annual Checklist

1. All teachers of core academic content (veteran, novice and new hires) must complete NJ's highly qualified forms.
2. All teachers with a new teaching assignment must complete NJ's highly qualified forms if their HQ status changes.
3. All teachers who have not met the HQ requirements must refile the HQ forms annually until they meet the requirements.



The Annual Checklist

4. HOUSE forms on file must have been completed and signed off prior to the HOUSE expiration date.
5. Teachers are encouraged to attain HQ status and complete documentation for all grades/subject areas for which they meet the HQ criteria, even if they are not assigned to teach a grade/subject. Doing so can maximize opportunities for teachers and schools to meet HQ requirements across multiple grades and subject areas.



The Annual Checklist

6. By September 1, a letter must be sent to all parents that informs them of their right to ask if their child is instructed by a highly qualified teacher and request the teacher's basic qualifications for the assignment. (should be done by all districts, must be done by Title I schools).
7. By November 1, parents must be notified if their children are not being instructed by a highly qualified teacher. (Title I schools ONLY)



Highly Qualified Is Portable

If a teacher leaves a district and accepts employment in another New Jersey district, the new employer must obtain the official highly qualified forms from the former employer.

Teachers may also request that their highly qualified forms be sent to an out-of-state district where they are seeking employment.



Right-To-Know

The law states a parent may request the following information:

- Whether the teacher has met state qualification and licensing criteria for the grade level(s)/content in which the teacher provides instruction
- Whether the teacher is teaching under emergency or other provisional status through which state qualification or licensing criteria have been waived
- The baccalaureate degree major of the teacher and other certification or degree held by the teacher, and the field of discipline of the certification or degree

The district will not show a parent a teacher's personnel file.



Accountability

HQT documentation will be used for:

- ☐ **Quality Single Accountability Continuum (QSAC) reporting**
- ☐ **Certificated Staff Report**
- ☐ **State monitoring of Highly Qualified Teachers**
- ☐ **Federal Highly Qualified and Title II monitoring**



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QUESTIONS



Recruitment and Retention Strategies



Next Steps: Federal Expectations Highly Qualified to Highly Effective

1. Professional learning for all educators to improve practice
2. Recruitment strategies that encourage teachers to teach in high need areas
3. Retention strategies that support teachers' growth upon entering the profession and throughout their education careers



Recruitment

- Future Educators Association
- Troops to Teachers
 - Contact: Melissa Fantozzi
 - 800.680.0884
 - ttnj@doe.state.nj.us
- Paraprofessionals
- NJHire.com



Strategies for Recruitment

- Promote your school district and why teachers would want to teach in the district
 - ☐ School's reputation
 - ☐ Support for new teachers
 - ☐ Salary
- Develop relationships with colleges and universities
- Recruit and nurture alternate route candidates
- Communicate with community organizations



Strategies for Retention

- Prioritize ongoing, sustained high quality professional learning, using both internal expertise and outside consultants
- Use district hiring incentives
- Create partnerships with institutions of higher ed to improve teacher content knowledge
- Ensure high quality mentoring for all novice teachers



Strategies for Retention

- Improve physical working conditions
- Create teacher leadership opportunities
- Develop policies and programs to attract and develop effective school leaders
- Provide content coaching for teachers



Mentoring

- All districts must have mentoring and induction plans that support the needs of beginning teachers in the districts.
- All special education teachers now fall under the mentoring regulations.
- Complete mentoring plans were due to the County Office by the beginning of September 2006 (Action Plan must be included). New mentoring plans will be required by September 2008.
- A 20-day alternate route mentoring plan must be sent to the County Office for County Superintendent Review and Approval by November 30, 2006.



Strategies for Highly Qualified

- **Provide Praxis review sessions in the district**
- **Pay for Praxis exams**
- **Provide tuition reimbursement for content courses**
- **Provide Praxis review materials for teachers**



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

- 
- www.nj.gov/education/educators/license
(Web site for Licensing)

- www.nj.gov/education/profdev/nclb/
(Web site for HQT information)

—The *HQT Requirements* link is a “snapshot” of the requirements for teachers in all grades and subject areas

- www.state.nj.us/education/data/hqt
(HQT Survey Results)

- www.nj.gov/education/title1/hqs/rtk.htm
(Web site for Title I Parent Right-to-know Letters)



E-mail—Technical Assistance

- HQTeachers@doe.state.nj.us
- Licensing.requests@doe.state.nj.us